

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A device for urging an at least substantially
2 sheet-like advancing blank sideways against an adhesive-
3 dispensing implement, comprising:

4 a back support having a surface arranged to
5 contact one side of an advancing blank while another side
6 of the advancing blank abuts the implement; and

7 at least one bearing mounting said back support
8 with freedoms of movement in a plurality of directions
9 relative to the implement.

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1 2. The device of claim 1, wherein said back
2 support has freedoms of movement in three different di-
3 rections relative to the implement.

1 3. The device of claim 1, wherein said at least
2 one bearing defines at least one pivot axis for said back
3 support and one of said freedoms includes pivotability
4 of said back support about said at least one pivot axis.

1 4. The device of claim 3 for urging a blank which
2 advances in a predetermined direction, wherein another
3 of said freedoms includes movability of said back support
4 transversely of said axis.

1 5. The device of claim 1, further comprising
2 means for yieldably biasing said back support to a prede-
3 termined position relative to said at least one bearing.

1 6. The device of claim 5, wherein said biasing
2 means comprises at least one spring.

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1 7. The device of claim 6, wherein said at least
2 one spring reacts against said at least one bearing and
3 bears upon said back support.

1 8. The device of claim 1, wherein at least a
2 portion of said surface has one of shapes including a
3 convex and a concave shape.

1 9. The device of claim 1, wherein said back
2 support includes a cradle which is rockable relative to
3 said at least one bearing.

1 10. The device of claim 1, further comprising
2 a spherical joint between said back support and said at
3 least one bearing.

1 11. Apparatus for applying an adhesive to substan-
2 tially sheet-like blanks, comprising:

3 means for advancing a series of successive blanks
4 along a predetermined path;

5 an adhesive applicator having a surface contacting
6 one side of each of the series of successive blanks in
7 a predetermined portion of said path;

8 a back support contacting another side of each
9 of the series of successive blanks in said predetermined
10 portion of said path; and

11 at least one bearing mounting at least one of said
12 back support and said applicator with freedom of movement
13 in at least one direction relative to the other of said
14 back support and said applicator.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said at
2 least one bearing includes means for mounting at least
3 a portion of said applicator with at least one freedom
4 of movement relative to said back support.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said
2 portion of said applicator has one of two and three
3 freedoms of movement relative to said back support.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising
2 means for yieldably biasing said portion of said
3 applicator to a predetermined position relative to said
4 back support.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein at least
2 one of said freedoms includes the ability of said portion
3 of said applicator to pivot about a predetermined axis.

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1 16. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said ad-
2 vancing means includes means for moving successive blanks
3 of the series in a predetermined direction and at least
4 one of said freedoms includes linear movability of said
5 portion of said applicator at least substantially trans-
6 versely of said direction.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein another
2 of said freedoms includes the ability of said portion
3 of said applicator to pivot about a predetermined axis.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising
2 at least one resilient element reacting against said at
3 least one bearing and bearing upon said portion of said
4 applicator to yieldably urge said portion of said appli-
5 cator to a predetermined position relative to said back
6 support.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said ap-
2 plicator includes at least one resilient component.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said
2 applicator forms part of a wrapping machine for smokers'
3 products.

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